

U.S. Consulate General Dubai Newsletter

March 2013



American Citizen Services Dubai Newsletter

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Income Tax Filing Deadline

April 15, 2013

For the most current information on Income Taxes, visit www.IRS.gov. The Consulate also has some general information on taxes, including a short list of local companies to help you prepare at:

http://dubai.usconsulate.gov/dubai_income_tax.html.



Want to speak
with an IRS
representative in
the U.S.?
1-800-829-1040

Need an Extension?
Information is avail-
able on the IRS web-
site by clicking
HERE!

International tax
payers can find
more information
HERE!

FREE FILE

**Do Your Federal Taxes
for FREE!**

Our December 2012 newsletter provided additional information on filing U.S. Income Taxes. Please refer to it for more information on finding an IRS representative overseas and free filing. Our newsletters are available on the Consulate's website by clicking [HERE](#).

UPDATE ON ITINs

In our December 2012 issue we informed you of new Internal Revenue Service changes to Individual Taxpayer Identification Numbers, stating that the Consulate was no longer able to certify true copies of non-U.S. passports. We are happy to report that new guidance informs us that the IRS will accept certification of non-U.S. passports by U.S. consular officers abroad.

Any questions regarding these procedures can be addressed to
ITINProgramOffice@irs.gov.



Welcome!

On February 1, 2013, John Forbes Kerry was sworn in as the 68th Secretary of State of the United States, becoming the first sitting Senate Foreign Relations Committee Chairman to become Secretary in over a century. Secretary Kerry joined the State Department after 28 years in the United States Senate, the last four as Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

Secretary Kerry was born on December 11, 1943, at Fitzsimons Army Hospital in Aurora, Colorado, one of four children of the late Rosemary Forbes Kerry and Richard Kerry, a Foreign Service Officer.

Shortly before he graduated from Yale University, Secretary Kerry enlisted to serve in the United States Navy, and went on to serve two tours of duty. He served in combat as a Swift Boat skipper patrolling the rivers of the Mekong Delta, returning home from Vietnam with a Silver Star, a Bronze Star with Combat V, and three Purple Hearts.

Back in the United States, Secretary Kerry began to forcefully speak out against the Vietnam War. Testifying at the invitation of Chairman J. William Fulbright before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, he asked the poignant question, "How do you ask a man to be the last man to die for a mistake?" He also began a lifelong fight for his fellow veterans as a co-founder of the Vietnam Veterans of America, and later as a United States Senator who fought to secure veterans' benefits, extension of the G.I. Bill for Higher Education, and improved treatment for PTSD (post-traumatic stress disorder).

In 1976, Secretary Kerry received his law degree from Boston College Law School and went to work as a top prosecutor in Middlesex County, Massachusetts, where he took on organized crime, fought for victims' rights, and created programs for rape counseling. He was elected Lieutenant Governor of Massachusetts in 1982, and 2 years later, he was elected to the United States Senate where he served for 28 years. In 2009, Secretary Kerry became Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, assuming a leadership role on key foreign policy and national security issues facing the United States, including Afghanistan and Pakistan, nuclear nonproliferation, and global climate change. His service as Chairman built on his previous Senate work that included helping to expose the Iran-Contra scandal and leadership on global AIDS.

As Chairman of the Senate Select Committee on POW/MIA Affairs, he worked to learn the truth about American soldiers missing in Vietnam and to normalize relations with that country.

In 2010, as Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, Secretary Kerry was instrumental in the ratification of the New START (Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty) Treaty, a vital nuclear arms reduction agreement with Russia that helps steer both countries away from dangerous nuclear confrontations. In his 28 years on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Secretary Kerry chaired the Asia and Middle East subcommittees where he authored and passed major legislation on international drug trafficking, international money laundering, humanitarian aid, and climate change, and he helped negotiate the UN's genocide tribunal to prosecute war crimes in Cambodia.

He also held senior positions on the Finance, Commerce, and Small Business committees, as well as served as a member of the bipartisan Joint Committee on Deficit Reduction, where he worked across party lines to try and reduce the country's debt and strengthen our economy. Prior to his departure from the Senate, Secretary Kerry was the seventh-most senior Senator.

Secretary Kerry was the Democratic Party's nominee for President of the United States in 2004.

Secretary Kerry is the author of best-selling books, including *A Call to Service: My Vision for a Better America* and *This Moment on Earth*, a book on the environment which he co-authored with his wife, Teresa Heinz Kerry. Together they are proud of a blended family that includes two daughters, three sons, and three grandchildren.



You are invited to an
ACS Open House

Thursday, April 4, 2013 | 3:00-5:00PM

at the U.S. Consulate General in Dubai, Consular Entrance

The American Citizen Services section is honored to invite all American citizens and their immediate families to our Spring event.

Meet the Consul General

Meet Consulate staff

Enjoy delicious food and drinks sold by our U.S. Marines

Register with the Consulate and Register to Vote!

Please RSVP to DubaiWarden@state.gov with the full names and U.S. passport numbers of all attending.

Regular ACS services will not be provided on this day.

Regular security procedures will be in place, please bring your U.S. passport and leave large bags and phones at home or in the car.

There is no dedicated public parking for the U.S. Consulate. However, there is ample paid

@TravelGov will host a live twitter Q&A on Monday, March 4 at 10:00 a.m. EST. Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Passport Services, Brenda S. Sprague will answer questions about passports for one hour. Tweet @TravelGov using #AskState, and we will answer your passport questions. Everyone is invited to join the conversation throughout the week by using the hashtag, #PPTDay. You can also visit [Facebook.com/TravelGov](https://www.facebook.com/TravelGov) beginning March 4 for daily passport tips and referrals to other online resources.

Focusing on Family Travel



Emergency Message for U.S. Citizens #01/2013: Worldwide Caution

February 24, 2013

1. The Department of State has issued this Worldwide Caution to update information on the continuing threat of terrorist actions and violence against U.S. citizens and interests throughout the world. U.S. citizens are reminded to maintain a high level of vigilance and to take appropriate steps to increase their security awareness. This replaces the Worldwide Caution dated July 18, 2012, to provide updated information on security threats and terrorist activities worldwide.
2. The Department of State remains concerned about the continued threat of terrorist attacks, demonstrations, and other violent actions against U.S. citizens and interests overseas. Current information suggests that al-Qaida, its affiliated organizations, and other terrorist organizations continue to plan terrorist attacks against U.S. interests in multiple regions, including Europe, Asia, Africa, and the Middle East. These attacks may employ a wide variety of tactics including suicide operations, assassinations, kidnappings, hijackings, and bombings.
3. Extremists may elect to use conventional or non-conventional weapons, and target both official and private interests. Examples of such targets include high-profile sporting events, residential areas, business offices, hotels, clubs, restaurants, places of worship, schools, public areas, and other tourist destinations both in the United States and abroad where U.S. citizens gather in large numbers, including during holidays.
4. U.S. citizens are reminded of the potential for terrorists to attack public transportation systems and other tourist infrastructure. Extremists have targeted and attempted attacks on subway and rail systems, aviation, and maritime services. In the past, these types of attacks have occurred in cities such as Moscow, London, Madrid, Glasgow, and New York City.

The remaining text of the Worldwide Caution, including region specific guidance, can be read at

http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/pa/pa_4787.html.

All messages to U.S. citizens are posted on our website and are available at:

http://dubai.usconsulate.gov/warden_travel.html.



Make sure you, your family and your friends receive the latest information by keeping your registration data up-to-date in STEP

Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP)

The Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP) is a free service provided by the U.S. Government to U.S. citizens who are traveling to, or living in, a foreign country.

STEP allows you to enter information about your upcoming trip abroad so that the Department of State can better assist you in an emergency.

STEP also allows Americans residing abroad to get routine information from the nearest U.S. embassy or consulate -- **please include a valid email address.**



To remove yourself from the Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP):

- If you are no longer in Dubai and do not wish to receive these messages, go to <https://step.state.gov> and update your profile with current information.
- You may leave the list at any time by sending "SIGNOFF POST_DUBAI" in the subject line to LISTSERV@CALIST.STATE.GOV.

Follow these icons to different links to stay connected with the Department of State!



Hold down **Ctrl** and click!

STAYING CONNECTED



The Smart Traveler App

Available for both [Android](#) and [iPhone](#), provides easy access to your [STEP](#) account and allows you to create personal itineraries, add notes, and organize your trips. Not only that, but it provides quick access to our [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) pages.

Expatriates to get Resident Identity Card

Khaleej Times—(Wam) / 31 January 2013

The 'Resident Identity Card' will be issued to expatriates from next month, the Emirates Identity Authority (Eida) announced on Wednesday. However, expatriate residents who have already obtained ID cards do not need to replace them until their validity expires. They can renew them in conjunction with the residency renewal procedures.

"The change is only to the name of the ID card for non-UAE citizens to 'Resident Identity Card', starting from February 2013," the authority stated. There will be no changes to the UAE citizens' ID cards, it said, noting that they are currently considering changes in the design of the UAE citizens' ID cards to distinguish them from those of the residents.

The design of the ID cards issued to people with special needs may also change to distinguish them. The Eida clarified that changing the name of the ID cards issued to non-citizens was in line with the recommendations of the Federal National Council.

Issuing the ID card to expatriates residing in the country is aimed to identify and confirm the identity of each one of them in a legal way within the population register system of the UAE, and through a unique personal number connected to the biological attributes of the individual, the authority said.

It pointed out that the ID card project falls under the country's quest to develop and facilitate the governmental services and provide necessary information about the demographics of the country, and to support decision making and strategic planning in resource allocation fields, and in different vital fields and areas, noting that the technical and security specifications and features of the ID card issued to all residents of the UAE will be the same.



Consular Reports of Birth Abroad (CRBA)

A child born outside the United States to one or both American citizen parents may be entitled to United States citizenship at birth. Information on CRBAs is found on our website at:

http://dubai.usconsulate.gov/birth_abroad.html

When applying for a CRBA, please make sure that you come prepared for your interview by having all the necessary forms completely filled out and bringing all necessary documents.

If only one parent is a U.S. citizen, that parent must show that s/he has been physically present in the U.S. for at least five years. Most people do not know the types of proof of physical presence that they must provide. Your Naturalization Certificate alone is not enough; a Naturalization Certificate is based on years as a resident of the U.S. Residency is not equivalent to physical presence.

Examples of documents that we may consider for your proof of physical presence: school transcripts (non-online classes), Federal Income Tax Returns, military discharge papers, notarized detailed letters from previous employers, itemized bank records, lease contracts, itemized credit card records, etc.



**Consular
Corner**

**American
Citizen
Services
Chief
Jolanta
Mikiewicz**

The entire American Citizen Services section hopes that many members of our community will come out to join us and enjoy a day with fellow Americans! Please make sure to RSVP to our April 4 ACS Open House!

We are always adding more information to our website. We hope that whenever you have any questions, you are able to find much of your information there: <http://dubai.usconsulate.gov/service.html>. However, if you can't find exactly what you are looking for, send us an email!! DubaiWarden@state.gov. We really are very good at answering our emails, and in most cases you'll get an answer within one business day. And let us know if you have any suggestions for our future newsletters!

It's tax time! Have you filed your Federal Income Tax Returns yet? This newsletter has some valuable information, as does our December 2012 newsletter. You can find more information on taxes and copies of previous newsletters on our website!

Have you "liked" our Facebook page yet? Not only can you get information on American Citizen Services and Visas, but you learn more about what the Consulate is doing. Check us out at <https://www.facebook.com/home.php#!/USConsulateGeneralDubai>. And, we're on Twitter also — [@USEmbUAE](https://twitter.com/USEmbUAE) — TWEET US!

Upcoming Holidays / Consulate Closing

May 26, 2013: Memorial Day

June 4, 2013: Prophet's Ascension Day*

July 4, 2013: U.S. Independence Day

August 8-10, 2013: Eid Al Fitr*

**Denotes UAE religious holidays which are dependent upon the sighting of the moon and are likely to vary from the above estimated dates.*

The U.S. Consulate is closed on these holidays. In addition, the American Citizen Services section is closed on most Mondays. To see which days ACS is open and accepting appointments, please visit our appointment calendar on our website [HERE](#).



ACS Appointment System

In order to provide the most efficient service to our community, the American Citizen Section at the US Consulate General in Dubai has established an appointment system for all routine services. Please book an appointment online at dubai.usconsulate.gov under US Citizen Services. When you have made your appointment a confirmation page will appear on your screen. Please print the confirmation page and bring it with you on the day of your appointment. We do not allow walk-in appointments.

Emergency Services are provided on an as-needed basis; please send an email to DubaiWarden@state.gov. We answer our emails daily.

Contact Us

Telephone number: +971 4 309 4000

ACS Public Phone Hours: daily 8:00-10:00

Email: DubaiWarden@state.gov

Facebook:

<http://www.facebook.com/USConsulateGeneralDubai>

Emergency: +971-4-309 4000, ask for the Duty Officer.

Dubai Emergency Numbers

Police/Ambulance:: 999

Fire: 997



The U.S. Consulate General in Dubai is located at the Corner of Sheikh Khalifa Bin Zayed Road and Al Seef Road, Bur Dubai, Dubai, UAE